

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Michael C. Smyk

Serial No.: 09/989,271

Group Art Unit: 2833

Filing Date: November 20, 2001

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: Female Electrical Terminal and Electrical Connector Comprising the Same

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO: EL928558261US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: July 24, 2002

# 6/a  
8/6/02  
Jura'Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:****Please cancel claims 1-21, without prejudice.****Please add the following new claims:**

--22. (New) A female electrical terminal comprising:

a contact section for mating with a complementary male terminal, the contact section including a bottom wall, two sidewalls extending upwardly from opposite sides of the bottom wall, and a front end;

an entry portion adjacent the front end including an entrance for guiding a complementary terminal into the contact section; and

a single flexible contact element that is at least partially disposed within the contact section for urging a complementary male terminal into engagement with the bottom wall, the flexible contact element including a leading edge positioned outside the periphery of the entrance such that access to the leading edge is prohibited.

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JUL 31 2002

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DOCKET NO.: FCI-2632/C3609

PATENT

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Box ☐ NON-FEE  
☐ AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington DC 20231

Sir:

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REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-identified patent application is:

- ☒ A Preliminary Amendment.
- ☐ An Amendment Responsive to the Office Action Dated \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ An Amendment Supplemental to the Paper filed \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ Applicant(s) has previously claimed small entity status under 37 CFR §1.27.

- ☐ Applicant(s) by its/their undersigned attorney, claims small entity status under 37 CFR §1.27 as:
- ☐ an Independent Inventor
  - ☐ a Small Business Concern
  - ☐ a Nonprofit Organization
- ☐ This application is no longer entitled to small entity status. It is requested that this be noted in the files of the Patent and Trademark Office.
- ☐ Substitute Pages \_\_\_\_\_ of the Specification are enclosed.
- ☐ An Abstract is enclosed.
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ Sheets of Proposed Corrected Drawings are enclosed.
- ☐ A Certified Copy of each of the following applications: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.
- ☐ An Associate Power of Attorney is enclosed.
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ Attached Form 1449.
  - ☐ A copy of each reference as listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.
- ☐ Appended Material as follows: \_\_\_\_\_ .
- ☐ Other Material as follows: \_\_\_\_\_ .

## FEE CALCULATION

☐ No Additional Fee is Due.

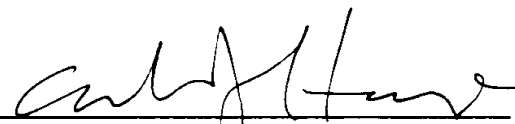
				SMALL ENTITY		NOT SMALL ENTITY	
	REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST PAID FOR	EXTRA	RATE	FEE	RATE	FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	23	21 (20 MINIMUM)	2	\$9 EACH	\$	\$18 EACH	\$ 36
INDEP. CLAIMS	5	5 (3 MINIMUM)	0	\$42 EACH	\$	\$84 EACH	\$ 0
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT				\$140	\$	\$280	\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/> ONE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME				\$55	\$	\$110	\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/> TWO MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME				\$200	\$	\$400	\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/> THREE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME				\$460	\$	\$920	\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/> FOUR MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME				\$720	\$	\$1440	\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/> FIVE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME				\$980	\$	\$1960	\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/> LESS ANY EXTENSION FEE ALREADY PAID				minus	(\$ )	minus	(\$ 0 )
<input type="checkbox"/> TERMINAL DISCLAIMER				\$55	\$	\$110	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER FEE OR SURCHARGE AS FOLLOWS:							
TOTAL FEE DUE							\$36.00

- ☒ A Check is Enclosed in the Foregoing Amount Due.
- ☐ Petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) to extend the time for response to the Office Action of @@ to and through @@ comprising an extension of the shortened statutory period of @@ month(s).
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby requested to grant an extension of time for the appropriate length of time, should one be necessary, in connection with this filing or any future filing submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the above-identified application during the pendency of this application. The Commissioner is further authorized to charge any fees related to any such extension of time to deposit account 23-3050. This sheet is provided in duplicate.

- ☒ The Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of the following fees and to refund any overpayment associated with this communication or during the pendency of this application to deposit account 23-3050. This sheet is provided in duplicate.
- ☐ The Foregoing Amount Due for Filing this Paper.
- ☒ Any additional filing fees required, including fees for the presentation of extra claims under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.
- ☒ Any additional patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17 or 1.20(d).

**SHOULD ANY DEFICIENCIES APPEAR** with respect to this application, including deficiencies in payment of fees, missing parts of the application or otherwise, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is respectfully requested to promptly notify the undersigned.

Date: 7/24/02

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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